1 2 3 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT TACOMA 5 JACLYN A. FISHER, STEPHANIE 6 GRAVES, HEATHER HUFF, CHERYL KOMENDA, JOSETTE LABREC, JESSICA 7 LOEPP, ANN MARKHAM-SIMMONS, Case No. C05-5412FDB BRENDA MATSON, CAROL MCNITT, 8 MOHAMED KHOCHTALI, IRENE ORDER DENYING PLAINTIFFS' MENDOZA, MIKKI PERSON, MICHELLE MOTION TO REMAND 9 STRAWN, ANNETTE VANSCHOYCK. JENNIFER ANDERSON, MAYRA 10 BACKAN, LEAH BRACKEN, DANIELLE CARTER, CHARLOTTE CHAPMAN, 11 CHALISE CROWDER, MONICA FIERRO, JENNIFER HARDIN, REBECCA JOHNSON. 12 SHANNON KENYON, JENNIFER KOGOD, STEPHANIE LEATHAM, NADINE 13 MANUEL, KERRI MCCLOUD, DONNA MUEHL, DAWN NEPSUND, NICOLE 14 PETERSON, NATALIE REED, BEVERLY RICHESON, DAWN SANCHEZ, JAMIE 15 LYN SCHULER, CATRINA STEWART, CHRISTINE VANDERHOFF, LATOYA 16 WADE, CRISTIN WEST, LEMICUA WILSON, MYRIAM ZAYAS, and JANE or 17 JOHN DOES 1-30. 18 Plaintiffs, 19 v. 20 CORINTHIAN COLLEGES, INC., a Washington corporation, d/b/a BRYMAN 21 COLLEGE, TACOMA CAMPUS, 22 Defendant. 23 Plaintiff moves to remand this cause of action to Pierce County Superior Court, from which it 24 was removed, on the basis that there is no competent evidence that the jurisdictional amount in 25 26 ORDER - 1

controversy exceeds \$75,000.00, because the letter offering to compromise this litigation does not constitute "other paper" under 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b). Corinthian College responds citing recent Ninth Circuit case law that a settlement letter is relevant evidence of the amount in controversy if it appears to reflect a reasonable estimate of the plaintiff's claim. Plaintiff concedes that the authority cited "may be dispositive of the issue." Plaintiffs' counsel had indicated in a letter to Defendants counsel that he anticipated asking the jury to award damages to each plaintiff in the amount of \$132,000.00, and it was this evidence that was cited when Defendant removed this action. Under Ninth Circuit case authority, this matter was properly removed, and will not be remanded. ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED: Plaintiffs' Motion for Remand [Dkt. # 10] is DENIED. DATED this 29th day of July 2005. FRANKLIN D. BURGESS UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

ORDER - 2